

REMARKS

The Examiner has requested Applicant, under 35 U.S.C. Sections 121 and 372, to restrict to one of the following inventions:

Group I, the instances wherein R^1 is X or T and R^2 is Y or W.

Group II, the instances wherein R^1 is X and R^2R^5N represents a heterocycle.

Group III, Claims 14 and 15, drawn to a process.

The Examiner purports that the inventions listed as Groups I to III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features because compounds of Groups I and II differ in scope from the compounds produced by the process of Group III. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's conclusion. However, in order to advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicant hereby elects the invention of Group I (i.e., the instances wherein R^1 is X or T and R^2 is Y or W). In this respect, Applicant has amended Claim 1 such that it has removed the instances wherein R^1 is X and R^2R^5N represents a heterocyclic ring. Applicant has also cancelled Claims 14 and 15.

Applicant has also amended Claims 4, 8, 9 and 12 by inserting the phrase "and wherein" before the term "said" to make these claims more grammatically correct. No new subject matter has been added.

Applicant has also amended Claim 6 by inserting a comma after the recitation of "claim 5" and deleting the first instance of the term "is" to make the claim more grammatically correct. No new subject matter has been added.

The Examiner further purports that Claim 18 is drawn to non-statutory subject matter since it is drafted in terms of use and hence cannot be grouped at this time. Applicant has amended Claim 18 such that it now relates to a method of use. Applicant is of the opinion that amended Claim 18 may now be grouped with the other claims in Group I,

and such is requested of the Examiner. Applicant has also amended Claim 18 by adding the specific diseases thalassaemia, sickle cell disease and haemochromatosis and by changing the dependency of Claim 18 by making it dependent on Claim 4. No new subject matter has been added.

The Examiner has also requested Applicant, in the event of an election of Group I, to elect one method of use (i.e., a specific disease) for searching purposes only. Applicant hereby elects thalassaemia as the specific disease.

In respect of the above amendments and arguments, Applicant is of the opinion that it has addressed all of the Examiner's concerns in the outstanding Official Action. If the Examiner, in the interim, has any questions, she is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's Agent, Kitt Sinden, collect, at 905-771-6414, at her convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



Kitt Sinden
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Agent for Applicant

WKS/jf